



Liberal International, 1 Whitehall Place, London SW1A 2HD

Resolution number: 01

Title: **The Global Improvement of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights**

Submitted by: *Open VLD* (Belgium)

The Congress of Liberal International, convened in Andorra, on 20 May 2017

1 **Recalling that:**

- 2 - The Liberal declaration of Oxford (1967), which states that family planning must be facilitated with
3 respect for the responsibility and freedom of choice of individual couples,
4 - The Helsinki declaration of the Environment (1990), in which family planning features prominently,
5 - The Resolution on “Improve maternal health” adopted by the 58th LI Congress,
6 - The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular Goal nr.3 (“Ensure healthy lives and
7 promote well-being for all at all ages”) and Goal nr.5 (“Achieve gender equality and empower all
8 women and girls”).

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10 **Recognises that:**

- 11 - The US government has issued an executive order to reinstate the global gag rule, which was first
12 introduced by Ronald Reagan in 1984, and which blocks American aid to international
13 organizations that discuss abortion as a family-planning option with clients.
14 - “She decides”, a joint Global Fundraising Initiative by the Netherlands, Belgium, Denmark and
15 Sweden, tries to fill the ensuing large funding gap through increased funding by governments, aid
16 organizations and private donors. During a conference on 2 March 2017 in Brussels 181 million
17 Euros were already raised.
18 - Sexual and reproductive health and rights are an essential element of good health and human
19 development. More progress on sexual and reproductive health and rights is critical to meet Goal
20 nr.3 and Goal nr.5 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
21 - Most maternal and new-born deaths could be prevented by improved access to well- integrated
22 reproductive health services.
23 - Family planning and modern contraception offer choice and opportunity for women to make
24 informed decisions and have more control over their lives. Its aim is to empower people to take
25 their own decisions about their sexual and reproductive situation.
26 - Poor sexual and reproductive health and rights as a huge unmet need for family planning, which
27 threatens wider development, especially in developing countries in Africa.

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29 **Calls on governments, international organizations and all member parties:**

- 30 - To develop strategies aimed at improving education concerning all aspects of sexual and
31 reproductive health and rights;
32 - To redouble their efforts in supporting sexual and reproductive health and rights in developing
33 countries, including through official development aid.